UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, . Criminal No. 13-cr-00607-JFB-AYS-1

•

Vs. . 100 Federal Plaza

. Central Islip, NY 11722

PHILLIP A. KENNER,

TOMMY C. CONSTANTINE . DATE July 30, 2021

.

TRANSCRIPT OF SENTENCE/RESTITUTION
(Via Video)
BEFORE HONORABLE JOSEPH F. BIANCO
VISITING JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

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3 THE CLERK: Criminal cause for a hearing on sentencing in 13-cr-607, the United States of America against Phillip 3 Kenner. Counsel, please state your appearances, starting with the Government. MR. HAGGANS: Good morning, it's Matthew Haggans this 6 morning for the United States. THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Haggans. THE DEFENDANT: Good morning, It's Phil Kenner, defendant, and Mr. Brissenden as standby counsel is here with us. THE COURT: Yes. Good morning Mr. Kenner. Mr. Kenner, are you able to move that camera a little bit or no? THE DEFENDANT: It's stationary. I'll try and sit up 14 the best I can. THE COURT: It's just when you put your head down. 16 Like that you're fine, when you put your head down, I just see 17 the top of your head, but. THE DEFENDANT: I'll do my best, Your Honor. THE COURT: It's fine, fine. So as you know, this is a continuation of the restitution portion of the sentencing. 20 Before we proceed, I just want to, we talked about this, but I just want to confirm for the record, and Chief Judge Brodie

issued another administrative order with respect to the

24 pandemic. And I just want to confirm that Mr. Kenner you are

agreeable to proceeding by way of video today, is that correct?

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THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, thank you for asking, Judge. THE COURT: All right. So based upon, I conclude that 3 to further delay this proceeding would be detrimental to the interests of justice. Obviously this has been going on for many months. Mr. Kenner obviously wants to be able to appeal his conviction. We want to resolve these issues with respect to restitution for the victims. And I don't want to unnecessarily jeopardize Mr. Kenner by having him transported to court against his will in order to be here in person, given that 10 we're fully able to conduct this by way of video. So we will proceed by way of video today for those reasons.

I did receive the supplemental submissions as I had requested. Mr. Haggans put in his July 13th letter. And Mr. Kenner put in his response, including the exhibits, many exhibits that he attached. So my intention today was to just give both sides, again you don't have to repeat what's in your papers, if there's anything you want to highlight to the Court I'll let you do that. And then my hope was to rule on the many issues that are outstanding. I may have some questions before I do that. So that's how we'll proceed.

I should just verify, are there any other counsel on 22∥ the line who wish to identify themselves for purposes of being presence today?

MS. RAMACHANDRAN: Yes, Your Honor, this is Seethe Ramachandran on behalf of Owen Nolan.

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THE COURT: Yes, good morning, Ms. Ramachandran. All right, do we have Mr. Main on the line or no?

MS. RAMACHANDRAN: Your Honor, Mr. Main couldn't attend this morning.

THE COURT: All right. So Mr. Kenner, I'll let you go first. All your arguments obviously are in your papers. You don't have to go through all the arguments. But if there's anything you want to highlight, I'll give you a chance to do that right now.

THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, just briefly, I just 11 wanted to just reiterate to the Court that I believe based on 12 the Government's prior submissions and Your Honor's recognition 13 of it, I believe that back in July, maybe July 2nd of 2019, that we weren't going to have a Fatico Hearing for anything outside of the four corners of the indictment and the trial 16 testimonies. And --

THE COURT: Let me just interrupt you, because I was 18 going to address that. That's a different issue, Mr. Kenner, than we have today. I certainly did, the Government did indicate, the Court said it wasn't going to consider anything outside of the offenses of conviction, which obviously related 22 to Hawaii, Eufora, global settlement funds, Led Better with 23 respect to you, and the Government indicated that it wasn't going to prove any other frauds as relevant conduct that were all contained in the PSR. And therefore we eliminated those

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alleged frauds from consideration for purposes of sentencing.

And however, with respect to restitution, I did $3 \parallel$ obviously advise the Government that they would -- if they $4\parallel$ needed additional evidence to prove the restitution, they would 5 have to do so at an evidentiary hearing. But to the extent that they can prove restitution to a particular victim based upon the trial evidence and forfeiture hearing evidence, in conjunction with the affidavits of loss, they don't need to have additional hearing then if they're sufficient, but for 10 preponderance purposes, for the Court making those conclusions, then no additional hearing is necessary.

And that's what Mr. Haggans is arguing in his July $13 \parallel 13$ th submission with citations to the trial record, that with respect to these non testifying victims, that there's sufficient evidence in the record for the Court to conclude by a preponderance of the evidence that they were victimized by 17 \parallel the offenses of conviction, the frauds that were part of the 18 trial. And that the amounts are also supportable based upon the evidence that's in the record.

And as you saw, they attached exhibits numbers, transcript cites, and obviously you responded to that. But I don't want to be under the impression that there's some ruling where I said to the Government you can't try to seek 24 restitution for any victims who did not testify, that's not my 25 position. That's not the law. And that's my position. So I

didn't want to interrupt you, but I did not want you to be 2 under that misimpression.

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THE DEFENDANT: Under that context, Your Honor, and I appreciate the detail of that, I'd just like to point out that none of these individuals had any testimony on their behalf with respect to the transactions that were all individual transactions. Each of them had signed previous acknowledgments 8 and acceptances, authorization forms, bank records, personal transfer documents, had never raised a prior issue, even after speaking with the Government. I believe most every one of these had Government proffers pretrial. And so there was never an opportunity to test any of that evidence for its concern whether these were alleged victims or not based on what they had signed, their empirical evidence versus their recollection of what may or may not have taken place.

So on that context, I know that the Government submitted a 1,000 charts and documents, but none of them were referenced with respect to these particular individuals. And as I'm sure the Court remembers at trial, even with respect to the global settlement fund, you had individuals like Tyson Nash represent every detail of the, what Mr. Constantine was going to use the global settlement for, and much like Mr. Berard explained to the Court during testimony, where others couldn't remember any of it, even though there are empirical evidence through email and text reconfirmed the actual meetings like Mr.

McKee or the Pecas did.

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So I just raise that issue, Your Honor, that there 3 wasn't a chance to test any of the evidence on any of these other individuals. And the rest of it, the rest of the submissions with respect to whether it's a sound methodology the Government didn't apply case or statute to some of their loss amounts or Mr. Kaiser's new collateral submission, which 8 was ECF 1070-2 which confirms he's a non victim. Or Mr. 9 Berard's testimony about Led Better that he sold the property, he sold the property with Mr. Kaiser and split the proceeds 50/50 at transcript 3093. I mean it's obvious the guy got all of his money back after they stole the property through a 13 forged and fabricated document.

You know, Mr. Rucchin's testimony, I outline from page 2750 to 2751 of the transcript, that he, the 50 grand he gave Constantine for the global settlement fund, he said he was for legal funds, fees, and you trace the legal fees, as you trace Mr. Rucchin's deposit, it was used only for legal fees.

And then ultimately I don't know that there's been a court ruling on the offset interest that the individual collateralized investors had received during the course of the Hawaiian investment, which totaled about \$1.6 million for guys 23 just in the, that were named in the superceding indictment.

And I think the Court was going to probably address the Northern Trust settlement issues, and then the fact that

whoever submitted the Government's reply on document 1082, $2 \parallel$ really did not address the Giglio issue or the Brady issue that 3 I had represented to the Court. Because it wasn't about the recordings it was about Mr. Kaiser's exculpatory statement, et cetera, so.

THE COURT: All right, thank you.

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THE DEFENDANT: Yes, thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: With respect, I just want to mention one other thing with respect to the Northern Trust. I did receive under seal a settlement agreement with respect to Mr. Nolan which I've reviewed ex parte, which is consistent with the Government's crediting of \$500,000 in its chart on April 16th, the submission where they went through and decreased amounts based upon what they understood to be credits from either distributions with respect to Hawaii or money that Northern Trust returned.

So, but let me just -- Ms. Ramachandran, is anything 18 you want to speak to with respect to that?

MS. RAMACHANDRAN: Yes, Your Honor. I would argue here that Mr. Kenner's not entitled to any restitution credit for the document I submitted under seal because my client Mr. Nolan hasn't actually received any compensation as a result of that settlement that would require a reduction in his award. It's 24 the defendant's (indiscernible - audio skip) to show that he should get a credit, and you know that only becomes an issue

after the victim has been compensated. You know, and when the 2 victim is compensated, if there's any sort of double recovery, $3 \parallel \text{it's between the victim and the third party, and that is}$ actually governed by State Law.

But in terms of the actual restitution amount imposed on Mr. Kenner, I believe it affects it and I don't believe he's met his burden to show that there should be any reduction.

THE COURT: I guess I'm a little confused. Are you saying that your client didn't receive the money yet under the settlement agreement? Is that what you're saying? Or you're just saying it shouldn't be credited.

MS. RAMACHANDRAN: He has not received any money under 13 the settlement agreement.

THE COURT: Okay.

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MS. RAMACHANDRAN: The agreement is a reduction in a line of credit, but he hasn't actually received any money from Mr. Kenner or from a third party.

THE COURT: All right, well that's -- that is -- I've been looking at this issue and under the statute it's a little bit confusing in this type of situation. The Hawaii crediting is a little bit easier because it's money that was returned. But with respect to settlements, under 3018 USC 3664, its suggests that you're not supposed to reduce the restitution amount based upon third party payments, but then you would 25 reallocate that amount to the third party. Which is confusing

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in this context, and Mr. Haggans will correct me if I'm wrong $2 \parallel$ on this, but my understanding is that these, there was an 3 acceleration of default with respect to these lines of credit, 4 so Northern Trust wouldn't really be a victim with respect to these amounts. Is that accurate? I mean they're not claiming to a victim, they're not claiming to be out all of this money. But I'm not sure that that was appropriate under these circumstances.

MR. HAGGANS: That is correct, Your Honor. Northern 10 Trust has not made any claim to being a victim of any -- either 11 in restitution or otherwise. As for the underlying crediting 12 or not crediting of recoveries from Northern Trust, the 13 Government is not familiar with and does not have the contents $14 \parallel$ of those documents. It has proposed those credits in the chart 15 that was filed at ECF 1024, on April 16th, based upon its 16 review of the trial testimony and the records that did go in at 17 trial.

But as, if I am understanding counsel's argument correctly, her proposition is that this was not a recovery from Northern Trust, it was a reduction in loss due to Northern Trust on the line of credit.

THE COURT: Is that --

MS. RAMACHANDRAN: I think that's correct, I think 24 that's correct and my argument is also that we only get to the issue of any reduction in a restitution award to Mr. Nolan when 1 he actually receives money, you know, and then at that point 2 that, any dispute between him and a third party from whom he $3 \parallel \text{received compensation would be governed by State Law.}$ 4 doesn't impact this proceeding, which is to determine Mr. 5 Kenner's restitution obligation.

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I think at most, you know, later on, if he's actually compensated, then it might impact his award then. But he hasn't received any money, so.

THE COURT: Yes, the key is he hasn't received any money. If he had received money then again, you don't want to, it shouldn't be a windfall for the victim, then you would 12 reallocate whatever loss there was to the third party and the 13 statute if clear, the victims get paid first. The third party wouldn't get paid ahead of the victims. The victims get paid first. And then to the extent there's money left over, the third party would be paid. But I guess --

MS. RAMACHANDRAN: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: I'm a little concerned too, I have to go back, I don't know whether this is the same issue with Mr. Berard and the Pecas, is it the same issue with them or did they actually get money?

MR. HAGGANS: The answer to that, I don't know, Your 23 Honor, we have, per the Court's instruction at the last 24 conference, we did reach out to those victims who indicated that they had received some sort of recovery from Northern

Trust. As of today none of them have located any documents nor $2 \parallel \text{provided them to the Government.}$ And as we pointed out in our $3 \parallel$ filing earlier this month, at docket entry 1082, that the Government believes it does not have the authority under the restitution statute to require the production of those documents. We did make the request, as the Court has made the request of the Government.

THE COURT: Right.

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THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor if I may address the point for a moment.

THE COURT: Sure.

THE DEFENDANT: Thank you. You may have two separate 13 situations here, if I can try and delineate for Your Honor and for the Court. Counsel for Mr. Nolan, I believe what she's referring to is the fact that Mr. Nolan had approximately \$2.2 million line of credit, and before he was forced to release his collateral to close the line of credit, which was open for 18 years beyond the April 2009 date of all the other line of credit individuals, Mr. Nolan had chosen to continue to pay his line of credit on his own. Where everybody else had agreed with Northern Trust to a seizure of collateral. So net, net, Mr. Nolan's loss would still be accurate at that \$1.6 million range, with his \$500,000 reduction or whatever the reduction amount is you have in the ex parte filing.

Contrasting that, Mr. Berard and the Pecas, when they

dealt with Northern Trust Bank at that same time, whether it be $2 \parallel 2011$ or thereabouts, as the ex parte agreement will show, they 3 had already had their collateral seized. So at that point the testimony from Berard that he received about 300,000 after legal fees, is the same the Pecas referred to when they paid 35 contingency fee to the lawyers, most likely Mr. Jowdy's lawyers, who were handling that transaction for them.

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So Mr. Nolan's 2.2 million was actually reduced as a loss, a collateral seizure to 1.6 million more likely than not. And that's why they haven't received any money. But they received the reduction in loss, so the loss was capped at 1.6, just the same. The Pecas and the Berards are different, they received a gross settlement and then testified at trial to a net of legal fees for their 300,000 and 600,000 settlements. They were in two different categories, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right, I think the most prudent way to proceed as it relates to, and my understanding, the Government and Ms. Ramachandran can correct me if I'm wrong, but this issue does not apply to the residual Hawaii funds, which were returned. This issue relates -- there was some crediting for the distribution of residual Hawaii funds, that we can reduce amount, this would relate only to the issues regarding any agreements with Northern Trust. Is that the Government's understanding?

MR. HAGGANS: As to Hawaii, I believe that's correct,

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Your Honor. And if I may, I think, if I'm understanding the $2 \parallel$ issue correctly on the lines of credit, I believe it may amount $3 \parallel$ to the same number in the end. So if we were to say that the 4 line of credit that was liquidated for each victim was \$100, to $5 \parallel$ make the math simple, and Mr. Nolan, if the Government's understanding correctly, paid \$50 to Northern Trust to retire that line of credit, and Northern Trust forgave the additional \$50.

Either way, Mr. Nolan is out the \$100 that was the line of credit, because of the foreclosure upon his collateral, if I'm understanding correctly.

Say the Pecas had the same \$100 collateral foreclosed upon, if I'm understanding their testimony correctly, they recovered \$35. They're out the remainder of that foreclosed collateral, which would be the \$65.

Either way the losses amounts to the same number. 17 Both were out \$100. Their collateral was foreclosed upon.

THE DEFENDANT: That's incorrect based on the different, the two different transactions, Your Honor. Nolans had a collateral seizure of the net 500,000, which left them at approximately 1.6. And the, in Mr. Haggans' example, 22 Berard and Peca both lost their \$100 at seizure, but then were 23 paid two years later by Northern Trust Bank in the settlement, and they referred to the Court their net of 35 percent contingency fee amount that they received.

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Nolan had no legal fees or contingency fee because 2 his was just a net settlement directly with the bank, and 3 Berard and Kaiser -- excuse me, Berard and Peca, they had their $4\parallel$ money seized as they authorized in April of 2009, and then were paid back some amount after a settlement that Jowdy's lawyers had settled with Northern Trust Bank. And then Jowdy's lawyers just took 35 percent of that fee.

THE COURT: All right, I think view is, the most prudent thing for the Court to do, it's clear under that statute the Court should not reduce total amount of restitution owed, again it's amount of allocation. And under 3664(j) the procedure for that, including a defendant filing some type of motion to reduce the amount based upon some recovery is available post issuing of the restitution order.

My view is, and this only further crystalized it for me, is that I don't have enough information to include that any of these victims have actually been compensated in some way or forgiven to the extent that I should reduce the amount. And as I mentioned to the Government, I wouldn't even know whether to reallocate it or not to Northern Trust in some way. But bottom line is, there was insufficient evidence in this record to conclude that it should be reduced based upon compensation that 23 has been received by the victims, that's without prejudice to such credits being made with respect to Northern Trust at a 25 future time.

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The reason the statute does it this way, and I read $2 \parallel$ some Second Circuit cases regarding this, if the Court were to $3 \parallel 1$ lower the amount now, you can't increase the amount later. 4 know, if I incorrectly understand the situations with respect to -- and with what Ms. Ramachandran told the Court, I would have no way of knowing, I just assumed that this was money that was paid out and received. So it proves the point that there's 8 insufficient information in the record to make these reductions at this point. And they can be made you know, with additional information that becomes available, although it is complicated by the fact, as Mr. Haggans noted, that the Court can't require 12 the victims to participate.

But I think the, based upon the record before the Court, both from the trial and from the forfeiture proceeding, is that the restitution of these amounts should be ordered, subject to any offsets or crediting that can be established, you know, and Mr. Kenner, you can, I'm not persuaded based upon what I heard today, and what you submitted to me, that there's enough evidence to do so. I'm not sure you have enough evidence to prove what you're articulating. But again this is without prejudice to you making such an application under 3664(j) at some future time.

> But is the Government agreeable to that approach? MR. HAGGANS: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Ms. Ramachandran, you want to be heard on

that approach?

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MS. RAMACHANDRAN: I agree with that, Your Honor, 3 thank you.

THE COURT: All right.

THE DEFENDANT: So Your Honor, just so I'm clear, with respect to any future filing, if necessary, is that the only evidence before the Court is the three individuals' 8 testimony that they received 500,000 Nolan, 600,000 Peca, and 300,000 Berard. The question that has been raised before the 10 Court that I raised after the Government conceded those 11 recovery amounts, either net or gross, which they did, is that 12 I raised the issue that the Pecas and the Berards, according to 13 what Nolan's counsel just said, are the only two that paid a 35 14 percent contingency fee after their recovery from Northern Trust Bank. It's all in documents on the record. So there's 16 nothing to show that they did not recover, either Nolan the 500, leaving him with a net 1.6, and Berard and Kaiser, or 18 Berard and Peca with a gross amount. And then received a cash recovery as they both testified at trial.

So other than those records, I'm not sure what else 21 there would be because we don't --

THE COURT: -- Northern Trust is out that money, do 23 you know whether Northern Trust is out some of that money or 24 not?

THE DEFENDANT: Northern Trust isn't out any of that

 $1 \parallel$ money, because that was just accrued interest that they just 2 never collected from them. They haven't had a motion in 11 3 years to say that they haven't, they're out a particular amount $4 \parallel$ of money during that period of time. And they gladly settled 5 with those individuals.

THE COURT: Again Mr. Kenner, I'm happy to consider it, you have to put it all in one place for me. I'm not going 8 to, I don't want to continue to hold off your, this restitution issue, especially because there is this procedure for doing it. 10 \parallel So it's not in your interest. So that, this is the way we're going to handle it. But you know, I'm happy to look at it. Okay?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right.

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THE DEFENDANT: With respect to Northern Trust, Your Honor, the only other open issue there was that the individuals named in the superceding indictment also received as part of their collateral investment, a little over \$1.6 million. that was not credited as recovery of investment income. address that in the interest offset section of the submission.

THE COURT: Again, I'm not persuaded at this point any of those offsets should be made. But you can make that application in the future. All right?

Other than the Hawaii funds distribution which is not disputed. All right, Mr. Haggans, do you want to respond to Mr.

1 Kenner, who spoke to the individuals who did not testify, do 2 you want to speak to that?

MR. HAGGANS: I believe we addressed that in our submission on July 13th, docket entry 1082, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Yes.

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MR. HAGGANS: In which we cite evidence in the record that the Court can and should rely upon to reach the 8 preponderance standard. I think as the Court has already stated, in this proceeding, or the Court implied, is perhaps a 10 better word, it's not strictly necessary for a victim to testify directly before the Court at trial or at a hearing, for 12 the Court to reach a conclusion by a preponderance that they 13 suffered losses attributable to the counts of the conviction. 14 And that's what's laid out here at pages 2 through 4 of our 15 submission on July 13th.

And so the Government's request, taking into account 17 the Court's ruling with respect to the Northern Trust credits 18 or lack of credits, just so the Government is clear, the Court's expected ruling is the amount specified in the Government's letter at docket entry 1024 of April 16th, not to include any credits going to recoveries or offsets from 22 Northern Trust. And the Government's requesting to also include 23 the amount specified in its filing at docket entry 1082, for 24 Mr. DeVries, Mr. Norstrom, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Murray, and the 25 widow of Mr. Tsyplakov and Mr. Stevenson.

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THE COURT: I had a question, there was some things in 2 the footnotes, it's not clear to me that there is evidence in 3 the record beyond affidavit of loss with respect to \$175,000 by 4 Dmitri Khristich to Eufora. Nor is there \$10,000 for, I don't know how you pronounce it, Tsyplakov for Eufora. There's no cites to the record or anything with respect to those.

MR. HAGGANS: Forgive me, Your Honor, but we do address Mr. --

THE COURT: For the Hawaii you have cites to the 10 record. But not for Eufora. I guess I shouldn't --

MR. HAGGANS: So, thank you, Your Honor, I can clarify. And I apologize if this was not clear in our July 13th submission. So we have included those footnotes, footnote 1, and footnote 2 for the Court's information. So that the 14 Court is aware that these victims have made claims that are larger than or different than what the Government has set out in the main text of the letter. But the main text of the 18 letter is the Government's request.

So as to the widow of Tsyplakov, the Government cited to I believe it's Hawaii losses, Government Exhibit 63 alpha, a total of 50,000. We do note in footnote one that she indicates additional losses. But the Government has not cited a record 23 cite other than her affidavit in support of that Eufora loss. And I believe the same is essentially true of Mr. Khristich 25 which we're noting in footnote 2 for the Court's attention, but

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it's not included in our recitation of losses either at docket entry 1024 or at docket entry 1082.

THE COURT: So let me just, with respect to these additional individuals, it's the Court's view, having reviewed the submissions and obviously having presided over the trial, and the forfeiture hearing, that they should be compensated in the restitution order, notwithstanding the fact that they did 8 not testify. The standard, I mentioned this before but I'll just reiterate for the record, that obviously under the law, a court can order restitution even if the victim does not testify. The Government has to establish under the law, and this is all set out in US v Gushlak among other cases. 728 F. 3d 184 (Second Circuit, 2013), by a preponderance of the evidence that the loss was proximately caused by an offense of conviction.

Mr. Kenner in his submission requests a methodology. The methodology here is not complicated. It's based upon, as he noted, the charts that the Government submitted in connection with the case, in conjunction with the testimony of all the other individuals who did testify, and I emphasize in reaching this conclusion as I did with respect to the loss amount for purposes of sentencing, I credit the Government's evidence at trial, the testimony and forfeiture, the testimony and the documentary evidence in support of it, which is summarized in great detail in the Court's October 13, 2017

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motions for a new trial decision, where I basically summarized 2 every witnesses' testimony and to some extent reiterated and 3 reanalyzed in the forfeiture opinion on March 10, 2020. I rely on those summaries and those findings for purposes of this ruling. And make clear that I am crediting the Government's evidence.

I already said at sentencing I did not find Mr. 8 Kenner credible, nor did I find Mr. Gonchar credible as it related to his statement for Mr. Constantine that some of those investments for the GSF Fund were for any purpose that Mr. Constantine wanted to use them for. It appeared to me based upon his demeanor and the other evidence before me that he was just doing that in his effort to help Mr. Constantine for purposes of the trial. Although he is a victim for other money, which he invested and didn't make such a similar type of So I'm limiting my finding with respect to him as to that one issue with respect to the global settlement fund.

But as it relates to Mr. Kenner, I find by that that standard that it was proven that he participated, obviously in the Hawaii fraud, the GSF fraud, the Eufora fraud with Mr. Constantine, and that any individual, this was a common scheme, the witnesses testified over and over again, as to the 23 misrepresentations that were made with respect to those. And there's no question in my mind that this scheme was common to all of the victims as it related to those particulate

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investments. And that they should be compensated for them.

In terms of the amount, the Government has established through the financial records and the charts, in addition to the affidavits of loss, corroborated those amounts. And therefore I believe that they have met their burden.

One of the most obvious reasons for this ruling, I think a couple of examples just to highlight. Even though Mr. 8 DeVries, if I'm pronouncing that right, didn't testify, as was pointed out in the Government's June 27th letter, which attached the chart with respect to Eufora, is clear that his money went into Eufora, similar to someone who did testify, Mr. Ranford, that it went through Mr. Garn (phonetic). And that then money was diverted. So it would, it's clear he should be compensated for that even though he did not testify. It was part of the same scheme.

And with respect to the global settlement fund, again every individual who put money into that fund, it was called a global settlement fund, it obviously was supposed to be used for that purpose. And yet the money was diverted for other uses that were not authorized and it's my view that those victims, people who put money into that fund, are entitled to that money back, and whether they testified or not, because the 23 scheme was clear.

And this was not the first time you know, in any type of financial fraud, once the scheme is established, then again,

it's by preponderance of the evidence, as the Court believes 2 that those same misrepresentations were utilized based upon the 3 testimony with respect to all of the victims. There's no requirement that 100, 150 victims, whatever the number may be, step into the courtroom and say the exact same thing. believe that this is one of those situations as it relates to all three of the frauds here and the lines of credit.

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The Government put the exhibits that show these amounts with respect to Mr. Norstrom. The Ponzi type scheme with respect to the line of credit was exactly the same as it was for the victim who did testify, in terms of paying one line of credit with funds from the other, and he certainly should be compensated for that, as well as for the global settlement fund and the Eufora investments.

So I believe with respect to each of these individuals, Mr. DeVries, Mr. Norstrom, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Murray, \$50,000 for Hawaii with respect to Tsyplakov and Mr. Stevenson, the \$200,000, all those amounts should be included as part of the offense of conviction in compensation for the victims. So that's the Court's ruling with respect to that.

I am not, as I noted, including, and the Government is not seeking amounts that were not corroborated, that are contained in that footnote. Footnote 1 and footnote 2. So I'm not including the -- \$100,000 in connection with Eufora for Ms. Tsyplakov. Nor am I including the \$25,000 for Hawaii by Mr.

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Khristich. Because that was credited, according to the 2 Government's exhibit. Nor am I including the \$175,000 in Eufora 3 if there is no record of such a contribution.

Mr. Haggans, is that clear, the Court's ruling? MR. HAGGANS: It is, Your Honor. I think the only 6 other element would be the Government is assuming that the Court will be entering that order, but jointly and severally with Mr. Constantine's order.

THE COURT: All of the, in addition, I didn't go back 10 \parallel to the rest of the issues, we still have some other outstanding 11 \parallel issues. But I should make clear, with respect to all of these amounts of restitution it is going to be joint and several, to the extent it has been ordered Mr. Constantine to pay the same 14 victims in some amount, okay?

THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, if I could just ask for 16 just some clarity, just because some of it I just couldn't hear. With respect to the tracing of the funds, was it the application of either a commingled approach or were you tracing money in, money out like a skip tracing accounting with respect to victims in the case?

THE COURT: Obviously with respect to forfeiture, you 22 can forfeit money based on the commingling. It's my view that 23 you utilized the same misrepresentations to defraud all of these victims. This was for scheme and it was clear from trial 25 the same misrepresentations repeated over and over and over

again with respect to Hawaii, with respect to global settlement $2 \parallel \text{ fund, with respect to Eufora.}$ And I find by a preponderance of 3 the evidence therefore that the monies that they contributed to those projects should be returned to them.

So I don't know what you're talking about when you say skip --

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THE DEFENDANT: Skip tracing, Your Honor.

THE COURT: I don't know what that is, but.

THE DEFENDANT: Sorry, it's just a normal money in, money out trace if you were to look at GX 767, the global settlement spreadsheet, the Rucchin example is the one that I quess I could refer to for the easiest, where he testified he wanted his 50 grand to go to legal fees. He put 50 grand in and that day 50 grand was paid to legal fees. So that was my question is, is were we tracing individuals based on money in, money out, or was it global settlement amounts.

And then was there any ruling on the record that I 18 haven't been able to find with respect to like the Ebers (phonetic) factors of the separation of fraud versus non fraud factors, in the case, in the event that somebody's money went entirely to the purchase of a piece of a property in Hawaii, 22 was there separation of that for loss factors under Ebers?

THE COURT: Mr. Kenner, my view is, again with respect to global settlement fund, that these people put their money in 25 under the understanding that this group of individuals were all

doing the same thing, and did not get, due to the fraud, the
use of that fund in the way that it should. The fact that some
amount went to some legal fees at some point, from some of that
money, does not mean that there should be some offset to the
money that they invested all together. They were putting that
money with the understanding it would all be used for that
purpose, and obviously would be more effective used for that
purpose, and they did not get that because they were defrauded.

So I don't believe to the extent you're saying because there was some amount of the global settlement fund that went to legal fees that I should deduct from some particular victim, I don't believe that's appropriate given what the fraud was.

THE DEFENDANT: Okay, I understand that, Your Honor. And then with respect to Hawaii, if I could just, just for clarity, again because I'm having a little trouble hearing today. The fraud versus non fraud factors, so if someone put a million dollars into the Hawaii investment and their money went to purchase one of the parcels of land, the entire million dollars, is that included as loss, or was there a ruling about separating what was delineated for a fraud with respect to like loans to Mr. Jowdy versus money that was spent on property?

THE COURT: I don't believe you met your burden to show that with respect to those losses that the money was utilized in the -- the losses at least that I have imposed

here, was utilized in the fashion that was agreed to by the victims. All right?

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But I want to move on to the other issues.

THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: The Court concludes with respect to Mr. Privitello, that although the Government notes that although Mr. Kenner was acquitted with respect to those particular 8 amounts, I find again based upon the preponderance of the evidence, credible evidence, that he should be held responsible 10 too for that \$200,000 investment in Eufora for the following reason. Again he was part of this conspiracy. He knew this money was being diverted. In fact many months before Mr. Privitello put in that money, he, Mr. Kenner himself diverted money through Mr. Garn from Eufora and knew that there was a fraud that he and Mr. Constantine were jointly involved in with respect to Eufora.

He then told Mr. Privitello about Eufora and the ability to invest in Eufora and sent him to Mr. Constantine. 19 believe he should then be responsible, again the fact that the jury found the debt was not proven beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Kenner was involved in those particular transactions, does not preclude the Court from finding, based upon my view of 23 \parallel the evidence, that he's responsible for that because he was part of the conspiracy to do that, knew that Mr. Constantine was engaging in fraud with respect to these victims.

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should be held responsible for that part of the conspiracy, 2 notwithstanding the acquittal as to those particular 3 transactions. So that's the Court's ruling with respect to Mr. Privitello.

Mr. Berard, I conclude that based upon his testimony, 6 that he should be compensated with respect to the Led Better losses. Again to the extent that Mr. Kenner wants to make any $8 \parallel$ type of motion under 3664 for some type of crediting that Mr. Berard received subsequent to the fraud, the Court is willing 10 to consider it. I don't believe that's been demonstrated at this point.

The Court's ruling is the same with respect to Mr. 13 Kaiser, based upon the trial testimony and the exhibits, I believe that Mr. Kaiser is owed the 1.280 million in restitution. As well as the 200,000 investment in Eufora. Based upon, I know Mr. Kenner thinks Mr. Kaiser is lying and should not be credited, I disagree based upon my review of the 18 evidence.

Similarly, I believe that the, with respect to the Government noted I had not ruled with respect to testimony that the \$200,000 investment, there was testimony in the record, let me just find it. In addition to Mr. Kaiser's personal 23 investment there was another \$200,000 investment on behalf of Ethel Kaiser who also did testify, and Mr. Hughes and Mr. Rizzi did not testify. I believe there is sufficient evidence in the

record based upon the, both Ms. Kaiser's testimony as to her $2 \parallel$ particular investment, as well as Mr. Kaiser's affidavit, that 3 investment was split equally among Rizzi, Hughes and his That that's how it should be broken down for purposes 4 mother. of restitution. And that's what the Court intends to do.

THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, with respect to Kaiser, I just wanted to ask, the Court has seen Mr. Kaiser's most recent submission at docket 1070-2, with respect to having a 15 year old collateral agreement that was worth approximately \$150,000 million at the time of the collateral transfer?

THE COURT: Again Mr. Kenner, I don't believe there's been any -- there's not been a sufficient basis to make any 13 credits with respect to the submissions at this juncture.

THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, Your Honor. Just referring to Mr. Kaiser's submission himself, admitting to the 150 million of collateral, 15 years ago.

THE COURT: All right --

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THE DEFENDANT: It wasn't my submissions it was his.

THE COURT: I understand, I don't think it establishes he's not entitled to this money that you took from him. Okay.

I don't believe, the Government, are there any other outstanding issues in the letters that were submitted to the Court? But in essence, the bottom line, is other than those two individuals that were in the footnotes, and they were not documented, I believe all the other amounts the Government is

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seeking with respect to the victims has been established, with $2 \parallel \text{respect}$ to the testimony and the exhibits. And that any 3 offsets that Mr. Kenner wants to claim under statute, can be reviewed by the Court on submission on those particular issues.

Part of the problem with your submission, Mr. Kenner, 6 they're all over the place. You tell me, oh it's in this document, it's in that document. If you want to make a motion $8 \parallel$ for a reduction, you have to stop relitigating the trial and focus on those particular things so the Court could see what 10 your position is all in one place.

And that's not a criticism of you. Obviously you've 12 been working very hard and diligently to present your position. I've complemented you on that before. But yet, you have to stay focused on what the issues are at this point if you're going to make those applications in the future.

But are there any other outstanding issues from the Government?

MR. HAGGANS: I don't believe so, Your Honor. If I may, would the Court benefit from a revision to the chart previously filed at docket entry 1024 to reflect the Court's rulings today?

THE COURT: Yes, I don't want to try to do this 23 without revisions, the math is much too complicated for me to do that right now based upon my rulings.

MR. HAGGANS: I think the Government should be able to

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1 put that, based on the Court's rulings on the record, the $2 \parallel$ Government should be able to do that fairly promptly and file 3 it.

THE COURT: All right, but I -- I have to formally order the amount both as to each victim and the total. So what do you propose I do then?

MR. HAGGANS: I think Your Honor could alternatively $8 \parallel$ simply just run through 1024, in the revised amounts column, which is the fourth column from the left. And simply identify 10 where the Northern Trust offsets are not being incorporated. And I can in the background do a quick calculation to include all those amounts and the amounts in 1082 so that the Court can orally pronounce them on the record in this proceeding. I 14 believe that is correct that the Court has to pronounce them in 15 the defendant's presence. But then --

THE COURT: You can do the math right now you're 17 saying?

MR. HAGGANS: I'm going to endeavor to do the math 19 right now, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. So I'm going to do that. Just give me one second. So based upon the evidence at trial and 22 the forfeiture hearing, credible evidence, I find the following individuals should be, are entitled to forfeiture. I'm ordering this on Count 1 in the following amounts to the 25 following individuals.

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(indiscernible - audio skip) 100,000 for Hawaii; $2 \parallel 649,405$ for the line of credit; \$375,000 for Led Better. 3 Sergei Gonchar \$899,221 for the line of credit. Ethel Kaiser --I'm sorry, I read the wrong column there. Hold on. MR. HAGGANS: Your Honor, are we looking at the revised amounts or the --THE COURT: I read the wrong column, I forgot to -- I 8 got confused, so let me redo that. The Court orders the following amounts. Bryan Berard 10 \$100,000 for Hawaii; \$349,405 for the line of credit; \$375,000 for Led Better. Mr. Gonchar \$856,668 for the line of credit. MR. HAGGANS: Your Honor, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I was 13 on mute. Relating to Mr. Berard, if I understand the Court's 14 prior ruling correctly, the Court is not ordering offsets. THE COURT: Right. MR. HAGGANS: For Northern Trust. So the amounts of the line of credit should therefore, based on footnote 1 in ECF 18 1024, it should be 649,405. THE COURT: Okay. THE DEFENDANT: So just for my edification, Your Honor, and I won't interrupt past this, I just want to make sure. So Berard's testimony that he did recover the 300,000 is 23 not being attributed to this? THE COURT: Not at this point. It's without 25 prejudice.

THE DEFENDANT: Okay.

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THE COURT: It's the same issue I'm concerned about that I referenced. But not at this point. But I see what I 4 have to do based upon my rulings today. So I apologize, let me start one more time.

And Mr. Kenner, you're free to interrupt me or Mr. Haggans, if you think that I'm doing something inconsistent with my rulings. Because I do have to bounce from one chart to the other.

So, starting again for Bryan Berard, \$100,000 on Hawaii; \$649,405 on the line of credit; \$375,000 on Led Better. For Mr. Gonchar, \$856,669 on the line of credit. For Ms. Ethel Kaiser, \$66,666.67. For John Kaiser, (background noise) on 14 Hawaii; \$200,000 on Eufora.

THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, before we get off Mr. 16 Kaiser, Ethel Kaiser and John Kaiser's money is the same money within that \$200,000 based on Kaiser's testimony at trial that 18 he solicited his mom, Hughes and Rizzi for those monies. So 19 it's the same money.

THE COURT: My understanding he separately invested \$200,000 based upon that testimony. But --

MR. HAGGANS: That's correct, Your Honor, its separate 23 pots to money. Mr. Kaiser did testify as to additional amounts that he spoke with other victims who invested. But he essentially acquired their losses because he paid them back,

that is not the same case with the \$200,000 invested by his 2 mother, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Rizzi.

THE COURT: That's --

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THE DEFENDANT: If I could just understand, Your 5 Honor, I'm confused. So Mr. Kaiser, there were two blocks of 6 money, there was Mr. Privitello's 200,000 and then there was the Ethel Kaiser/Hughes/Rizzi 200,000. Those were the two 8 blocks of money. But according to what Mr. Haggans said, there 9 are now three blocks of money. And there's no bank records or 10 | any documents that show that anywhere. Mr. Kaiser's testimony was -- I don't have the transcript in front of me, refers to that 200,000 being just for those, his three friends and There was not a third block of money ever mentioned.

MR. HAGGANS: The Government addressed this with respect to Mr. Kaiser's losses many times, Your Honor.

THE COURT: My understanding is he was referring to a third block of money. That's the Court's ruling.

THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Jay McKee, \$250,000 for the GSF investment. Glen Murray, 57,447 for Hawaii; \$1,242,769 for the line of credit; \$250,00 for Eufora; \$250,000 for GSF. Nash, \$57,447 for Hawaii; \$100,000 for Eufora; \$100,000 for 23 GSF. Owen Nolan --

MR. HAGGANS: Here there's going to be a change, Your 25 Honor.

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THE COURT: Yes.
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             MR. HAGGANS: To --
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             THE COURT: I'm doing that right now.
             MR. HAGGANS: Not including the offset for any line of
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   credit recovery. The amount the Government gets for Mr.
 6 Nolan's losses on the line of credit is 2 million 156 -- I'm
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   sorry that's
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             THE COURT: Well you have to subtract the 2198910, you
 9 have to subtract out 42,553, right? We're still taking out the
10 Hawaii funds, but not the Northern Trust.
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             MR. HAGGANS: Yes, I'm sorry, Your Honor. It should be
|| - \$2,113,804. That's the amount on 1024, 1.6138904, plus the
   500,000 reflected in footnote 6. Again for the record,
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14 2,113,804.
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             THE DEFENDANT: No, Your Honor, although that math is
16 correct, Owen's counsel said that they had, they reduced the
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   settlement amount, the collateral seizure amount by the
   500,000, but they had not received any actual cash beyond that
19 amount. That's what she said earlier today.
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             THE COURT: Again Mr. Kenner, I'm not addressing those
   offsets today. All, right?
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             THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.
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             THE COURT: I just -- Ms. Ramachandran, you believe
24 that's the amount?
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             MS. RAMACHANDRAN: Yes, Your Honor.
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GSF.

THE COURT: All right. \$2,113,804. THE DEFENDANT: So if in the future, Your Honor, her 3 records reflect that the seizure was not the 1.6 million amount, but it was more over closer to the 2.1 million amount. Just want to make sure I understand what she's saying correctly. THE COURT: Mr. Kenner, we're not -- I don't want to 8 repeat what I just said. We're not, this is based upon the record that's before me. You can make your application. THE DEFENDANT: I'm sorry, Your Honor, just having difficulty hearing and following, thank you. THE COURT: Mr. Peca, \$100,000 for Hawaii. MR. HAGGANS: There will another change here, Your 14 Honor. THE COURT: \$1,794,392 for the line of credit, right? MR. HAGGANS: One moment, please, Your Honor. Yes, 17 that's correct, 1,794,392, that's the Government's number. THE COURT: Eufora \$100,000; GSF 250,000. Mr. Nicholas 19 Privitello, 200,000. Mr. Ranford, 400,000 to Eufora; 300,000 GSF. Mr. Rucchin \$57,447 for Hawaii; \$1,010,645 for the line of credit; \$150,000 for Eufora; 50,000 for GSF. Turner Stevenson, \$100,000 for GSF. Darryl Sydor, \$60,000 for Hawaii;

MR. HAGGANS: Your Honor, just give me a moment, I'm

\$856,200 for the line of credit; 50,000 for Eufora; 250,000 for

compiling the additional amounts from docket entry 1082 and 2 then I think I'll be ready to -- All right, Your Honor, thank 3 vou. I apologize for the delay, I'm sorry.

THE COURT: And then based upon today's rulings, I'm also ordering restitution for Mr. Greg DeVries in the total 6 amount of \$450,000, consisting of 100,000 for Hawaii; 100,000 for Eufora; 250,000 for global settlement. Mattias Norstrom a 8 total of \$1,561,897.81 consisting of 100,000 for Hawaii; 1,211,897.81 for the line credit; 250,000 for the global 10 settlement fund.

Mr. Brian Campbell, \$250,000 -- excuse me, \$350,000 consisting of 100,000 for Hawaii; 250,000 for global settlement. Raymond Murray, 100,000 in connection with the global settlement fund. Elena Tsyplakov, the widow of Vladimir 14 Tsyplakov 50,000 for Hawaii project. And Mr. Stevenson I already awarded \$100,000 for -- I already awarded him the 100,000 for GSF, but I'm adding 100,000 for Hawaii. Is that clear Mr. Haggans, I don't want you to double count it.

MR. HAGGANS: Yes, thank you, Your Honor I did. noted, I do now see in my listing 100,000 for GSF; 100,000 for Hawaii as to Mr. Stevenson, 200,000 total.

THE COURT: Right.

MR. HAGGANS: Which is correct.

THE COURT: I think that completes the amounts,

25 correct?

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MR. HAGGANS: It does, Your Honor. And I'm just 2 running a quick total now. The Government's total number, Your 3 Honor, just for the record, is \$16,300,000.48.

THE COURT: All right, so the total amount of the restitution order is \$16,300,000.48, based upon the Court's rulings and the amounts stated on the record today. It's due immediately and payable at a rate of \$25 per quarter, and at a rate of 10 percent of gross monthly income while Mr. Kenner is on supervised release. It is joint and several with Mr. Constantine, to the extent the Court has imposed such restitution on him for these victims.

All right, I advise you -- so Mr. Kenner what's going 13 to happen is the Court is going to issue the judgment of conviction that will obviously contain the Court's sentencing in its entirety, including the restitution order that the Court has imposed today. I think I advised you this back at the time of sentencing, but I'll advise you again, that you have the right to appeal your conviction and sentence and this 19 restitution order. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed on appeal to represent you.

If you cannot afford the cost of an appeal you may apply for leave to appeal in forma pauperis. And notice of conviction must be filed within 14 days of of the judgment of conviction. It will probably take a couple of weeks for that judgment to be filed, and Mr. Brissenden obviously will assist

41 you in filing the notice of appeal. 2 Are there any other issues today the Government wants 3 to raise with the Court? 4 MR. HAGGANS: No, Your Honor, thank you. THE COURT: Mr. Kenner, are there any other issues you 5 want to raise with the Court today? 6 7 THE DEFENDANT: No thank you, Your Honor. 8 THE COURT: All right. 9 THE DEFENDANT: (inaudible) 10 MR. BRISSENDEN: I'm sorry I didn't mean to speak over Mr. Kenner, but just briefly, and I understand the Court's 12 rulings today, but just for the sake of preservation and I 13 think it's already clear, but if it's not, I just want it made 14 clear, that Mr. Kenner, based on my discussions with him, he's objecting to the lack of offset for those settlement agreements. So I just for the sake of preservation, I just 17 wanted to make that clear. 18 THE COURT: He definitely has preserved that, 19 certainly. And again I said it before, but I'll say it now at the end that the Court is not, based upon Second Circuit case law and the statute, the Court in my view is supposed to order 21 22 the amounts for the restitution, and to the extent that 23 additional information is provided that establishes clearly 24 that it should be reduced, and reallocated potentially to some

25 third party, the Court is fully prepared to do that under

3664(j)(1) or (2). All right.

MR. BRISSENDEN: Understood, Your Honor, thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you very much everybody have a

4 good day.

MR. HAGGANS: Have a good weekend, Your Honor.

* * * * *

CERTIFICATION

I, PATRICIA POOLE, court approved transcriber, certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the official electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

/S/ PATRICIA POOLE

14 TRACY GRIBBEN TRANSCRIPTION, LLC DATE: August 2, 2021